



South East Regional Trauma Coordinating Committee

Conference Call Minutes

September 2, 2008

12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

Attendees: Raul Coimbra, Bruce Barton, Les Gardina, Virginia Hastings, Dorothy Kelley, Sharon Pacyna, Cynthia Marlin-Stoll, Ryan Kelley

EMSA Staff: Bonnie Sinz, Johnathan Jones

Minutes

Agenda Item: Introductions

Discussion: All on the call were introduced

Agenda Item: Approval of July 25, 2008 Minutes

Action Item: Minutes were approved as written

Agenda Item: Local EMS Agency Reports

Presenter: Inland Counties EMS Agency – Virginia Hastings

- San Bernardino County, Inyo County, Mono County
- Joint Powers Authority
- Approx. 35,000 square miles
- Trauma Centers – Level II/Burn; Level I/Pediatrics I
- Major freeway access to Las Vegas with traffic related injuries
- Approx. 1600 air transports (some transported to Nevada and Arizona)
- Plans for San Bernardino County trauma system assessment – completed around January 2009
- Trauma triage similar to other systems around state
- Approx. 4000 trauma patients/year
- Regional QI process with Riverside County
 - Specific criteria for fallouts to review (will send out to group)
 - TC's send cases to LEMSA Medical Director for review consideration by regional group
 - Discuss problem transfers, preventability
 - Discussion reported back to TCs

Action Item: ***Will provide group with information on quality indicators used in this process***

- Limited Burn and Pediatric beds
- Arrowhead (Level II) receives burn patients from Riverside County
- Reimplantation; hands sent to Loma Linda (Level I) – receive some from Riverside County
- Transfers in mainly Pediatrics to Loma Linda (Level I Peds)
- Contracts for specialty services between Arrowhead and Loma Linda
- No trauma diversion per policy
- Repatriation not surfaced as problem
- Recruiting for ½ time system trauma coordinator

Presenter: **Riverside County – Cynthia Marlin-Stoll**

- 3 – Level II Trauma Centers; 1 – Level III Trauma Center
- Riverside Regional Med Cntr (Level II) working with CCS to meet regulatory requirements for Pediatric TC
- Inland Valley (Level III) has “agreement” with San Diego Childrens for pediatric transfers; working on improving neuro coverage to allow for upgrade to Level II designation
- Receives patients from Imperial County directly from the field

Action Item: ***Provide group with information regarding this relationship***

- ALS first response – fire based
- ALS ambulance – 95% AMR
- Burn care provided at Arrowhead (San Bernardino County)
- Pediatric care provided at Loma Linda (San Bernardino County)
- Data shows trauma patient volume down approx. 1000 patients from 2006 – unknown reason
- Desert Hospital (Level II) has agreement with UCSD for transfers

Action Item: ***Cynthia will research this process for group***

- QI Process with San Bernardino County

- Rehabilitation – case managers assist with long distance placement at times; funding difficulties
- Transfers – good relationship with Loma Linda (San Bernardino County)

Presenter: Imperial County – Ryan Kelley

- 176,000 population with added 200,000 for recreation
- Approx. 320 trauma patients/year
- 2 – Level IV Trauma Centers
- Majority of transfers go to San Diego with UCSD as main receiving facility
- Some patients transported to Phoenix (by air) if Arizona provider responds to incident
- 4 air transport providers service county with one based in county (REACH)
- Some air transports from field directly to Desert Hospital (Riverside County)
- When Mercy Air left their base in Imperial County the direct field flights to San Diego stopped
- REACH selected by hospitals to provide IFT service
- Repatriation a problem due to limited services at hospitals
- Recreation population surge is biggest problem – desire to work with other region partners on resolving the patient care issues
- Rehabilitation – no resources within the county

Presenter: San Diego County – Les Gardina

- 4 – Level II Trauma Centers (one of which is Pediatric)
- 2 – Level I Trauma Centers
- Approx. 10,000 trauma patients/year – 60% major trauma
- 3.1 million population with 2/3 increase for tourism
- Air transport by Mercy Air + San Diego City and County law enforcement
- IFT transports from Imperial County to Scripps LaJolla, UCSD and Childrens with some to Mercy
- Interested in improving relationship with Imperial re: field transports
- QI cases reviewed and selected by Trauma Directors and EMS Agency Medical Director
- Plastic and hand specialties may have multiple hospital coverage causing availability issues
- Air transport – limited use except for North Coastal area due to traffic patterns

- Transfers from Riverside for San Diego Childrens
- Some transports into Orange County with Orange County EMS providers

Action Item: ***Provide information about possible “agreement” with Orange County***

- IFT – some issues with timeliness of transfers for higher level of care

Action Item: ***Explore development of “Continuation of Care” policy based on Orange/San Mateo policies***

- Neurosurgical coverage – issues with burden of unfunded cases

Action Item: ***Region to explore funding options from “county of origin” – funding may cross county lines***

Agenda Item: **Membership**

- Steering Committee to be:

Raul Coimbra, MD, Chief Division of Trauma/Burns UCSD Medical Center

Bruce Barton, Agency Director, Riverside EMS

Brent Eastman, MD, Chief Medical Officer Scripps Health

Les Gardina, RN, QA Specialist San Diego EMS

Virginia Hastings, Executive Director, Inland Counties EMS Agency

Dorothy Kelley, RN, Trauma Services Director Scripps Mercy Hospital

Chris Van Gorder, President and CEO Scripps Health

Sharon Pacyna, RN, Trauma Program Manager UCSD

Ryan Kelley, Agency Director, Imperial County

Members to be added from subgroups as group leads determine; San Bernardino and Riverside Counties need Trauma Director and Trauma Coordinator representation

- Subgroups to work on specific projects:
 - Trauma Triage – LEAD: Cynthia Marlin-Stoll
 - ✓ Look for standardization across region
 - ✓ Los Angeles completed triage comparison chart
 - Quality Improvement – LEAD: Sharon Pacyna, Dorothy Kelley, and Cynthia Marlin-Stoll

- ✓ Standardize definitions, e.g. preventable death
- ✓ Development of quality indicators
- ✓ Standardized process
- ✓ Address system issues rather than case specific
- Funding – LEAD: Virginia Hastings
 - ✓ Administrative and Fiscal representative from each local EMS Agency to start group with members to be added after initial “brainstorming” conference call
 - ✓ Use local trauma registry data
 - ✓ Evaluate patient flow patterns
 - ✓ Will have issues related to other group activities, esp. Repatriation and Triage
- Repatriation – LEAD: Les Gardina & Ryan Kelley
 - ✓ Address IFT and patient flow patterns
 - ✓ Recommend including Desert Hospital (Riverside County) trauma coordinator and Riverside Regional MC trauma coordinator

Action Item: *Each group LEAD to set up conference calls to begin discussions; EMSA will assist with conference call lines*

- Full RTCC membership should be inclusive but reasonable; see July 25th meeting minutes for recommended membership representation
- Subgroups to identify prehospital representatives including air transport (working within regional boundaries)
- All members should be kept informed of activities that affect the region; can use EMSA website
- Full Region Committee to meet 2 x/year with reports from subgroups

Agenda Item: **Funding**

- EMSA will assist RTCC by providing \$10,000 – 20,000
- Use of monies to be determined by Steering Committee
- EMSA will need to “contract” with a single EMS Agency or UC to distribute monies
- Funds may be used for travel, equipment (telecommunication), room rental, etc.

Agenda Item: **Meetings Schedule**

- Full RTCC membership will meet 2x/year
 - 1st meeting to be in January (9am – 5pm)

- Temecula as possible location
- Try for Friday to allow possible weekend fun for attendees
- A.M. group (4) presentations
- P.M. break out sessions for each group (4)
- Program Committee: Cynthia Marlin-Stoll, Raul Coimbra, Bonnie Sinz, Johnathan Jones

Action Item: Confirm date and location with Steering Committee

- Monthly Steering Committee Conference Calls:
 - **October 6, 2008 9am – 11am**
 - **November 3, 2008 9am – 11am**
 - **December 1, 2008 9am – 11am**

Action Item: Bonnie will set up conference calls